

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 306835
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EB-08 ISO-00 TRSE-00 L-03 AID-05 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 COME-00 IGA-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 /045 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN:DWAGNER
APPROVED BY EB/IFD/OIA - MR, BOERNER
ARA/PAN - MR. HAAHR

-----008216 240740Z /14

R 240117Z DEC 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PN, EINV, BDIS

SUBJECT: EXPROPRIATION: CITRICOS DE CHIRIQUI, S.A,

REF: A. PANAMA 9106, B. STATE 298827, C. PANAMA 8733

1. ON DECEMBER 23 DEPARTMENT DELIVERED BARLETTA'S
LETTER (REFTEL A) TO MESSERS. ANDREW NORMANDEAU AND
JACOB MEYER OF RAGAN AND MASON. THE DISCUSSION WHICH
ENSUED CENTERED AROUND THE FOLLOWING:

A. DID LUDWIG RECEIVE HIS OWN COPY OF THE LETTER OR IS
THIS THE OFFICIAL DELIVERY? WE COULD NOT ANSWER THIS
QUESTION BECAUSE REFTTEL A DID NOT SPECIFY WHETHER THE
GOP HAD SENT A COPY TO LUDWIG DIRECTLY OR WHETHER THE
DELIVERY WAS TO BE MADE THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT AND RAGAN
AND MASON. REQUEST CLARIFICATION.

B. IS THIS LETTER IN RESPONSE TO THE INITIATIVES
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PROMISED IN RAGAN AND MASON'S DECEMBER 9 MEETING WITH
DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS (REFTEL B)? WE PRESUMED THAT IT
WAS NOT, SINCE BARLETTA'S LETTER WAS DATED ONLY THE DAY
AFTER THE MEETING IN WASHINGTON. WE COULD NOT BE SURE,
HOWEVER, BECAUSE THE LETTER WAS DELIVERED TO THE AID
MISSION ON DECEMBER 20.

C. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, WE TOLD RAGAN AND MASON

REPRESENTATIVES THAT WE BELIEVED THE LETTER, ESPECIALLY THE SENTENCE "THE GOVERNMENT IS FIRMLY COMMITTED TO CONTINUE CONVERSATIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS IN THE HOPE OF REACHING A SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENT IN A NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE," SEEMED POSITIVE AND MIGHT OFFER SOME HOPE THAT A SETTLEMENT COULD BE REACHED.

D. NORMANDEAU PROMISED TO KEEP DEPARTMENT INFORMED OF ALL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CASE.

2. WE WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT ONE APPARENT MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND THE EMBASSY. IN REFTEL A, PARA. 3, EMBASSY SEEMS TO BELIEVE THAT CITRICOS AGREED TO PURSUE LEGAL REMEDIES IN PANAMA. THIS IS INCORRECT. IN REFTEL B, PARA. 1, WE REPORTED, "L/ARA REPRESENTATIVES...NOTED FAILURE OF CITRICOS TO MAKE ANY ATTEMPT TO PURSUE LEGAL REMEDIES AVAILABLE IN PANAMA. CITRICOS COUNSEL STATED THAT IT HAD NO INTENTION OF DOING SO AND THAT CITRICOS PANAMANIAN COUNSEL ADVISED THAT RECOURSE TO THE PANAMANIAN COURTS WOULD BE FUTILE." VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONALIZATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: DWAGNER
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Executive Order: N/A
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Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771218/aaaaaouo.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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